

ABSTRACT

A conveyor track drive includes a housing with a first continuous loop conveyor having a portion extending through the housing within a generally horizontal drive plane. The conveyor includes a first segment extending through the housing in the drive plane, then wraps around a portion of a drive sprocket, extends back upstream and around a portion of an idler sprocket and then includes a second segment transversely adjacent the first segment within the drive plane. A guide plate on the housing is positioned over the drive plane with a slot located to guide a specimen carrier from the first segment to the second segment at the point where the two segments are adjacent one another. A motor in the housing drives the drive sprocket to move the conveyor.